Joint Statement in support of Effective South-South and Triangular Co-operation

We, the undersigned, gathered at the session on “Effective South-South and triangular co-operation to deliver at country level” of the 2022 Effective Development Co-operation Summit in Geneva to discuss how South-South and triangular co-operation, as modalities that complement international development co-operation, can support partner countries to achieve sustainable development and address global challenges through more effective partnerships and co-operation. At the occasion, we acknowledged their rich history of joint, demand-driven and context-specific solutions to common development challenges.

We explored how South-South and triangular co-operation – as inclusive, trust-based and horizontal partnerships that encourage the co-creation of solutions – can be made more effective, including through the involvement of civil society, the private sector and other non-State actors. Building on what was agreed at the Second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South Co-operation (BAPA+40) in 2019, we reaffirmed the importance of focusing on results, demand-driven co-operation, mutual accountability and transparency, country ownership as well as mutual learning, in an overall spirit of solidarity. This, in turn, requires expanding ongoing voluntary efforts to map and document good practices and ensuring adequate capacity to support the development of effective policies, partnerships and practices in South-South and Triangular Co-operation.

We also discussed how triangular co-operation, as a unique modality, can build bridges between approaches and tap into the wealth of experiences and innovations that are needed to deliver on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Effective triangular co-operation delivers high impact results, forges strategic partnerships, opens doors for political and social dialogue and visibility, builds vital trust, and pools additional resources.

We acknowledge the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation’s (GPEDC) role in fostering dialogue between partner countries, development partners and all other relevant development actors, including civil society and the private sector. We welcome ongoing efforts to deepen the common understanding of what constitutes greater development effectiveness of South-South and triangular co-operation, including through the piloting of a new self-assessment framework for South-South Co-operation, developed by Colombia, for interested countries, as well as the pilots of the Voluntary Guidelines for Effective Triangular Co-operation, developed by the Global Partnership Initiative for Effective Triangular Co-operation.

We encourage the GPEDC, under Indonesia’s future co-leadership, to provide ample space for sharing knowledge and promoting good practices of effective South-South and Triangular Co-operation at country-level to increase impact, resilience and prosperity of all partners. In overcoming difficult times due to the pandemic and economic crisis, including massive loss of lives, access to housing food and decent jobs worldwide, we encourage the implementation of the SSTC to revive a sense of solidarity above political interests.

We will strive to collaborate with and use synergies between GPEDC and other processes, such as the ones led by UN institutions, the OECD, SEGIB, the IsDB, and the international meetings on triangular co-operation hosted by the Government of Portugal in Lisbon, among others. We will also support collaboration with other global fora, such as the G20. These processes provide
opportunities to further develop and pilot the voluntary self-assessment of effective South-South Co-operation, the Voluntary Guidelines for Effective Triangular Co-operation and other innovative solutions (such as the Kampala Principles for Effective Development Co-operation). We will continue our support to building the global evidence base and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and practices between countries.

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